

REMARKS

The Office Action of May 15, 2009, has been carefully considered.

Objection has been raised to the drawings on the basis that reference character 14 has been used to designate both a booster and a control unit. In addition, objection has been raised to the specification on the basis that reference character 14 has been used to refer to both the booster and the control unit, reference numeral 18 has been used to refer to both the working area and the first electrode, and reference numeral 22 has been used to refer to both the anvil (counter electrode) and second electrode. Moreover, an objection has been raised on the basis that there is an errant space on page 4 of the specification.

In the drawings, a replacement sheet has been submitted for Figure 1, in which the reference character referring to the control unit has been changed from "14" to "13." This change has been made throughout the specification, as well.

Regarding the paragraph on page 4, the paragraph has been rewritten with the errant space removed.

The paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 has been rewritten to clarify that the "anvil," "counter electrode," and "second electrode" are different ways of referring to the same element, designated "22." The first electrode is now designated as the "sonotrode 10" and "18, 20" designates "working areas" or "welding areas."

In addition, the title of the invention and the specification have been amended to change "consolidating" to "squeezing off." This was done upon review of the translation from the original German, from which the term "consolidating" was found to be a poor translation of the German expression "abquetschen." This term is more accurately translated as

"squeezing off" which is considered to be an accurate description of the process which occurs to the end of the tube.

No new matter has been added to the specification.

Claims 2-8 and 10-13 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite on a number of grounds.

The claims have now been rewritten as new Claims 14-28, in proper form for U.S. practice. Antecedent basis is thought to have been provided for all terminology and the phrase "such as" has been removed from the claims. New Claim 27 has been added to incorporate subject matter canceled from Claim 24, and new Claim 28 has been added to incorporate subject matter canceled from new Claim 26.

Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

All claims have been found to be allowable over the art.

If the Examiner believes that any further changes to the claims are necessary before this application can be allowed, he is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss such changes before issuing a further Office action.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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